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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
AFRICAN AFFAIRS

OUTGOING  
TELEGRAM

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'NFD LOG-00 AF-00 AMAD-01 CIAE-00 SMEC-00 DASY-00 BOBE-00  
EB-00 BIGO-01 H-01 TEDE-00 INR-00 10-16 L-00  
ADS-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 OIC-02 OIG-04 BMB-01 PA-02  
PM-00 PRS-01 P-01 SNP-00 SP-00 SR-00 STR-01  
TRSE-00 T-00 USIE-00 PMB-00 PRM-10 PRME-01 DRL-09  
G-00 /055R

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FM SECSTATE WASNDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

'INF RWANDA COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 228584

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PHUM, UNHRC, PREF, PREL, RW

SUBJECT: FUNDING OF HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORS IN RWANDA:  
LETTER TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONER AYALA-LASSB

1. MISSION IS REQUESTED TO HAND DELIVER THE LETTER BELOW  
FROM USAID BICK MC CALL TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONER

AYALA LASSB. NO SIGNED ORIGINAL WILL FOLLOW

2. BEGIN TEXT:

THE UNITED STATES IS PLEASED TO RESPOND TO THE REQUEST FOR  
FUNDS TO SUPPORT HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORS IN RWANDA. IT IS  
OUR INTENT TO CONTRIBUTE DOLLARS 750,000 SO THAT THE  
SELECTION AND PLACEMENT OF PERSONNEL CAN PROCEED AS  
QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

WE AGREE THAT RECONCILIATION IS THE CENTRAL POLITICAL  
ISSUE FACING RWANDA. THE PRESENCE OF UP TO 100 HUMAN  
RIGHTS MONITORS IN THE TEN PREFECTURES WILL BE A  
SIGNIFICANT CONFIDENCE-BUILDING CONTRIBUTION TO A FRAGILE  
SITUATION.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO DETAILS OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOLLOWING  
YOUR RETURN FROM THE REGION. IN THAT REGARD, I WOULD LIKE

TO OFFER OUR THINKING ON A FEW OF THE ELEMENTS WHICH WE  
THINK ARE VITAL TO A SUCCESSFUL LONG-TERM RECONCILIATION  
EFFORT:

A) DEFINITION OF MANDATE - WE BELIEVE THAT THE MONITORS  
SHOULD NOT BE INVESTIGATORS OF PAST ABUSES, BUT RATHER,  
PROVIDE ONGOING ASSURANCE THAT CONDITIONS ARE SAFE FOR ALL  
CITIZENS FROM NOW ON. THEY SHOULD BE HIGHLY VISIBLE TO  
ALL LOCAL RESIDENTS, ENGAGED IN ESCORT MISSIONS FOR  
RETURNING RHAMBIANS, AND SERVE AS COMMUNICATORS OF ANY  
ABUSES TO GOVERNMENT OR INTERNATIONAL AUTHORITIES.

WHILE WE REALIZE THAT THE HUMAN RIGHTS CENTER MAY AT SOME

POINT DEVELOP AN ADVISORY SERVICES PROGRAM FOR RWANDA, WE  
BELIEVE THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO USE THE SIGNIFICANT  
PRESENCE OF THE HR MONITORS TO ADVANCE THE DEVELOPMENT OF  
LOCAL GOVERNANCE. THIS HAS BEEN AN AREA OF PARTICULAR  
WEAKNESS IN RWANDA, ONE THAT WE FEEL CAN BEGIN TO BE  
ADDRESSED WITH THE MONITORS PROVIDING ON-GOING GUIDANCE

STATE 228584 242324Z 4454 012045 AF1885  
FOR: LOCAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION, BROAD PUBLIC PARTICIPATION,  
NEEDS ASSESSMENTS, PRIORITY SETTING, RESOURCE  
IDENTIFICATION, AND COMMUNICATION.

A MORE ASSERTIVE ROLE BY THE HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORS FROM  
THE BEGINNING IS VITAL IN ORDER TO BUILD A LONG-TERM  
FOUNDATION FOR A MORE STABLE GOVERNMENT.

B) COMPOSITION OF TEN COUNTRYSIDE TEAMS - WE BELIEVE THAT  
A BASE OF APPROXIMATELY TWO INTERNATIONALS IS APPROPRIATE  
AND WOULD LIKE TO RECOMMEND THAT THE REMAINDER OF THE  
TEAMS BE BALANCED WITH RWANDANS- WOMEN AND MEN, HUTUS AND  
TUTSIS, AND OTHER LOCALLY IMPORTANT IDENTIFIERS. LAYING A  
FOUNDATION OF TRUST IS ESSENTIAL TO AVOID LEAVING A VACUUM  
DUE THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY PULLS OUT OF RWANDA. THE  
PROCESS OF RECONCILIATION MUST BE ENCOURAGED IN EVERY  
POSSIBLE WAY, AND THESE "JOINT" TEAMS CAN SEND A POWERFUL  
MESSAGE OF COOPERATION.

AN ADDITIONAL ADVANTAGE OF JOINT INTERNATIONAL-RWANDAN  
TEAMS IS THAT THEY WILL HELP TO CREATE A SIGNIFICANT LOCAL  
BASE OF POLITICALLY SENSITIVE ACTIVISTS - ONE THAT WILL  
HOPEFULLY BECOME PART OF THE NATION'S LONG-TERM  
DEVELOPMENT

C) SELECTION OF INTERNATIONALS - WE RECOGNIZE THE  
DIFFICULTY OF FINDING HIGHLY QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS IN A  
SHORT PERIOD OF TIME AND HAVE IDENTIFIED SEVERAL DOZEN  
POTENTIAL CANDIDATES TO SUPPLEMENT THE UNVS AND OTHERS YOU

ARE ALREADY REVIEWING. THEY WILL BE FORWARDED BY FAX AS  
WE RECEIVE THEM.

BECAUSE THE SUCCESS OF THIS MISSION WILL DEPEND SO MUCH ON  
THE INDIVIDUALS IN THE FIELD, USAID IS PREPARED TO ASSIST  
WITH THE RECRUITING, INTERVIEWING, AND TRAINING OF THE  
TEAM LEADERS. IN ADDITION, WE MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE SOME  
IN-COUNTRY ASSISTANCE AS THE TEAMS ARE EXPANDED WITH  
RWANDANS.

WE WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION OF THE ROLES OF THE  
VARIOUS UN AGENCIES REGARDING THIS INITIATIVE, INCLUDING  
UNDP, UNV AND THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS CENTER.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH YOU AND  
THE OTHER DONORS TO REVIEW THE POINTS OUTLINED ABOVE. WE  
WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE A MEETING EARLY THE WEEK OF AUGUST  
29 TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED BUDGET AND OTHER DETAILS OF THE  
RWANDA PLAN. I HAVE ASKED RICK BARTON, DIRECTOR OF  
OFFICE OF TRANSITION INITIATIVES, TO COORDINATE THIS  
EFFORT WITH THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS CENTER.

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FEELS THAT THE MONITORS CAN  
BE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTORS TO THE STABILITY OF RWANDA.  
WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE LEADERSHIP YOU ARE PROVIDING, AND  
WE ARE EAGER TO WORK WITH YOU TO ENSURE THAT THIS

INTERNATIONAL EFFORT IS A CONSTRUCTIVE ONE.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GOOD WORK. SINCERELY, DICK MC CALL  
TALBOTT

970241 #1883

"94 Rwanda PHUM-01 Aug-Sept"

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE

REVIEW  
AUTHORITY: HARRY R. MELONE

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